

REMARKS

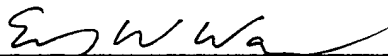
Prior to examination, Applicants respectfully request entry of the present Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified United States National Phase patent application. The foregoing amendments have been made in order to place the specification and claims into proper form for examination by the U.S. Patent Office. Claims 6-13, 15, 19-20, 22-23, and 26-36 have been amended. No new matter has been added by way of this Preliminary Amendment. The present application is a U.S. National Phase Application of International Application No. PCT/AU2003/001646, filed December 9, 2003, which claims priority to Australian Patent Application No. 2002953252, filed December 9, 2002. Accordingly, a "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" section has been added to the specification to reflect this status.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and examination of the application and pending claims are respectively requested. Should any issue require attention prior to allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (206) 622-4900 to resolve the same. Furthermore, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Preliminary Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,

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